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NEWS RELEASE

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Releases increased from Pipestem Reservoir

JAMESTOWN, N.D. – Releases from Pipestem Reservoir were increased from 700 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 800 cfs on Tuesday morning, August 16. Jamestown Reservoir releases were decreased Monday night because of threat of heavy rainfall in Jamestown, but on Tuesday morning were increased back to a level of 1200 cfs. These changes result in a combined release of 2000 cfs from the reservoirs.

The Corps of Engineers is continuing to work with the city of Jamestown and Stutsman County to identify measures needed to minimize impacts of higher releases. It is expected that combined releases of 2000 to 2400 cfs may be necessary in order to minimize the chances of spillway flows and evacuate flood control storage before winter freeze-up. A more detailed release plan and measures needed to minimize impacts of higher releases will be announced later this week after coordination activities are completed.

A public information meeting on projected releases from Jamestown and Pipestem Reservoirs and contingency plans for measures needed to minimize impacts of higher releases in the city of Jamestown will be conducted by the Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation on Wednesday, August 17 at 7 p.m. in the theater of the Jamestown Senior High School, 1509 10th Street NE.

Property owners are advised to monitor changes in stage as flows are increased. The Corps, Bureau of Reclamation and National Weather Service will continue to monitor rainfall and runoff conditions, and will provide updated forecasts and release plans as conditions change.

Jamestown and Pipestem Reservoirs are located along the James River and Pipestem Creek immediately north of Jamestown, N.D. Pipestem Reservoir is a Corps project and Jamestown Reservoir is a Bureau of Reclamation project that is regulated by the Corps when the reservoir is in the flood control zone.

With the continued high releases from the reservoirs, residents along the James River downstream from Jamestown should continue to monitor flood forecasts by the National Weather Service.

Flood forecasts on the James River in North Dakota and South Dakota are available on the Missouri Basin River Forecast Center website at http://www.crh.noaa.gov/mbrfc/.

River stages on the James River in North Dakota and South Dakota are available on the U.S. Geological Survey Web site at http://nd.water.usgs.gov/floodinfo/james.html.

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